

Grad's Asked To Complete Survey For Job's

By Prism News Staff

Lately, for a number of good reasons, on campus job recruiting has not been a major emphasis at most Massachusetts community colleges. The western Massachusetts colleges hope to restore this important aspect of full time job placement service. The first step here at GCC will be to determine the degree of student interest in such an activity.

All June graduates at the college have been urged to complete a Job Recruitment Survey. Placement Director, Jim O'Neil, recommends that every June graduate intending to enter full time employment after commencement complete and return the survey to the Student Services as soon as possible. Those students transferring on to other colleges also will gain long term benefit from such a service. A favorable response from the survey will enable the Placement Office to begin the process for establishing an on campus recruitment program — hopefully, this year.

Although job recruiter methods vary somewhat from company to company, the basic procedures are pretty much the same. On campus job recruiters use the time to identify those applicants with the basic qualifications their company is seeking. Usually, the on campus recruiter is a member of the company's personnel department. During the 20-30 minute interview, the candidates have the opportunity to present their qualifications, background, and career goals.

On campus recruiting can be a very effective method of allowing students, in a relatively brief time, to contact a diverse and potentially rewarding group of employers.

The long range goal of the western Massachusetts community college placement officers, both individually and collectively, is to encourage an ever increasing number of public and private sector national, state, and local business, service and industry representatives to visit the community college campuses on a regular basis.

What Interviewers Focus On During The Interview

First impressions. Firm handshake; don't just offer your fingers! Conventional business attire; suits for men and women. Eye contact maintained briefly from time to time. Relaxed but poised demeanor; good manners.

Information about you. Academic record; creative and intellectual capabilities. Extracurricular activities; how you use discretionary time. Work experience (summer jobs, internships, volunteer work). Character and personality, e.g. maturity, initiative, energy level, alertness, sense of humor, confidence, integrity. Ability to work well with others; leadership and teamwork. Articulatness; how well you express your ideas. Career plans and goals; do you have a sense of direction? Knowledge of and interest in the industry and company, how motivated are you in pursuing your goals?

Information about the company. Presentation by interviewer of company structure, goals, products and services and specifics of the position to be filled. Opportunity for you to ask informed questions and display your interest and seriousness of purpose.

Conclusion. Review of next steps you should take, e.g. complete application form, supply references. Procedure company will follow in the hiring process and when you may expect a decision or indication of further interest.

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Robin Stone with her fiddle. Photo courtesy of the RECORDER.

GCC Instructor Fluent In Music and Language

Robin Stone, music instructor at GCC, Concertmistress of the Pioneer Valley Symphony Orchestra, and private teacher of piano, violin and viola, began her career at the age of four when her mother introduced her to the piano. At six, she began formal training and, when she was eight, won a competition by memorizing 32 piano compositions, 23 pieces ahead of the runner-up.

"This gave me a sense of confidence which encouraged me to try harder," she remarked, and so she turned her attention to acquiring perfection.

When she was 11 she noticed that several of her peers were beginning to study the violin. "I was very competitive at that age," she said, "and begged my parents to give me a violin for Christmas," adding

mischievously, "I knew they would." Thus, she was soon alternating practice on both instruments, supplementing an already tight schedule with performances at the high school on the piano and violin and, when she wasn't singing herself, accompanying the high school glee club on the piano.

During the high school summer vacations she played in the youth orchestral group where she also played several percussion instruments including the timpani, or kettle drums, the only drum that can be tuned to musical notes.

While in high school, Robin joined the Young Peoples' Symphony Orchestra in Springfield but had to give it up because of the traveling involved. Instead, she joined the Pioneer Valley Symphony Orchestra

Food Stamps Cut Because Of Pell Grants

By E. Tefft

"It's like they are trying to hold you back or something," remarked one welfare client in regards to the cutbacks of Food Stamps for welfare recipients receiving the Pell Grant. "But it's worth it to stay in school in spite of the cuts."

"I never told them about the Pell Grant," said another woman. "Just didn't think of it. Last year I was working. They cut my check and my Food Stamps and didn't pay for the babysitter. They said they would. I made \$75 a week and half of that went to the babysitter. And I went to school. It wasn't worth it. I quit."

As I sat and listened to the stories of welfare mothers who are trying to get an education to better their circumstances, I wondered how they do keep going. There seemed to be a lot of confusion and resentment. Almost every welfare recipient I talked to seemed to feel that the new benefits reduction was the Welfare Department's fault. That they were being treated unfairly because they chose to try and

better themselves. Somehow they were being penalized for trying to advance.

The penalty? For every \$3 a recipient now receives from the Pell Grant, her Food Stamps Allotment will be reduced by \$1.

An individual is not penalized for the amount of their Pell Grant that goes to pay tuition or fees. Whatever amount that is left over is then considered income.

Despite the current round of Food Stamps cuts, all the welfare recipients that I spoke with seemed enthusiastic about continuing school. Their frustration with the cuts were expressed over and over again. Many saying, "They just want to make it difficult for you."

James Greenleaf, Director of Welfare in Greenfield, supported the women's statements. "The Department of the welfare agrees with these people that the cuts are unfair," he said. "However, the USDA requires that you count the Pell Grant as income."

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where she remained until she left to get a Bachelor of Music degree at the Eastman School of Music, her mother's alma mater. Upon graduation, she rejoined the Pioneer Valley Orchestra and became Concertmistress in the early 1970s. She has since played professionally with symphony orchestras throughout Massachusetts, New York, Vermont and New Hampshire, appearing most recently with the Pioneer Valley Orchestra as piano soloist playing "Grieg's Piano Concerto."

Today, "I worry about leading too narrow a life," she said. She tries to add variety on weekends by skiing cross-country, oil painting, and arts and crafts with which she adorns her home.

Already fluent in several languages including Esperanto, a lingering flare for

games involving the creation and unraveling of secret codes undoubtedly whetted an interest in the Russian language with its alphabet of 33 characters wherewith only a few basic words actually relate to English translation. Robin crammed a year's study of Russian into one summer's vacation and hopes to master it sufficiently to enable her, some day, to tour that nation without an interpreter.

Other than the fact that the piano and violin both have strings, Robin is unique in her ability to have mastered these otherwise unrelated instruments. Even the viola which she now has also mastered, although similar to the violin, plays a tonal fifth below the violin requiring a different clef so that violin and viola music are not interchangeable.

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President's Message For The PRISM SILVER ANNIVERSARY

During 1987, Greenfield Community College will celebrate its 25th anniversary and 25 years of growth and expansion. Though there will be events scheduled throughout the year, the weekend of September 25-27, 1987, officially launching the anniversary, will be the most active.

Under the leadership of Mrs. Jean Cummings and a Community/College Planning Committee, ideas are being reviewed and tentative plans set. Though plans are still in the developmental stage, the weekend will be devoted to activities for the enjoyment of both the College and the Community. For instance, it has been suggested that a block dance be held on Friday evening, a concert on Saturday evening and a formal speaking program on Sunday.

Throughout the year we hope to have a series of events linked to the 25th anniversary of the College and possibly the 200th anniversary of the United States Constitution that was written in 1787.

If you have ideas to share with the Committee, please write a suggestion and give it to Mrs. McLaughlin in my office. She will get your thoughts to the Committee.

As plans materialize, we, of course, will ask students to give a hand in preparing the events. Everyone will be needed in order that we can make the year one that all will remember with enthusiasm and pride.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

Electricity is our life-line to the civilization we have created and a reliable energy supply is critical to the health of our economy. We consumers become frantic and often abusive when the power lines are down for our lives have suddenly become chaotic and we are unable to function properly.

Electricity generated by oil was, until recently, our main source of power but prices soared and availability became questionable in the 1970s. Thanks to the advent of nuclear power, Northeast Utilities (NU) now relies on oil for only about 25 percent of their generating power.

Coal, another means of generating electricity, provides approximately 12 percent of NU's generating power. Hydro-electric power provides 4 percent, natural gas supplies 2 percent, and nuclear power now makes up the other 57 percent. In 1984 alone, NU's nuclear investment displaced 23.5 million barrels of oil and saved us \$244 million.

During the time that Millstone III was being designed and built, extensive studies on alternative courses of action were conducted by NU. The alternatives included comparative costs of oil and coal units and extensive conservation and load-management programs. These studies showed that Millstone III would yield the most economic long-term supply of energy.

Stockholders put up the money to build Millstone III in Connecticut, and a typical household is now being asked to pay them back at an average monthly cost of \$5.32. Pretty small potatoes for meeting our demands for electricity which continue to increase every year.

A word about the integrity of our utility company: NU has applied to the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities for a decrease in their fuel charge to customers to reflect the recent decrease in oil prices. Can anyone recall our state or federal governments, for instance, even thinking of doing anything at all with a surplus other than to find some way to spend it?

Providing electricity is only part of the picture. For instance, there is the continuing job of maintenance of those Eiffel Tower-like structures strung up throughout the hills and the continual repair of equipment. The next time the power goes out, try to drudge up a word of thanks to those people who go out in all kinds of weather to restore your comforts. A word of appreciation is also very much in order to those who work behind the scenes to plan our electrical salvation. We can never again live comfortably without electricity.

M. Ott



Student Housing Out In The Cold

BY LAURIE WHEELER

Among the general student population is a group of people who neither live at home or have homes of their own. For these it is necessary to rent an apartment, or a room in someone's house. There are serious drawbacks to both; Too expensive, too cold, neighbors who are not in a school situation and don't relish "peace and quiet" as much as the student, spouse/family-beating, and promiscuous landlords. These interruptions, and the solution of them, cut greatly into a student's studies. Adaptation is one of mankind's greatest strengths, but in this case the energy spent trying to cope drains the energies needed for the student's college success.

I thought at first that it might be my inexperience in apartment-hunting that was getting me into unhappy situations, but upon talking to other students who also rent, it was found that they have fared not much better. The same stories were told again and again.

Being in college setting requires certain needs to be fulfilled both on and away from the campus. Yes, we are being educated at school, but the education needs to be

continued within the home. Alternatives to renting need to be made available.

Several ideas could be practically put into operation. Homes, run by "house-parents", could be operated as "co-ops", where students would participate in household activities, and feel a part of a community. (This latter is especially important for those students who have relocated from other areas and who know very few outside of classes). A problem with this approach is that the state of Massachusetts, because of a community college's status, will not fund dormitory-style student housing. The solution would be to find some type of funding other than state aid, and have students pay a minimum rental fee. It would also have to be assumed that the house would be at best a "break even" venture, one not meant to make any profit.

If this were not a workable idea, even a compilation of homes that had been checked and were suitable for student habitation would be a help.

At this time I realize that student housing is not the responsibility of the college. But to enhance, and even promote, the welfare of the student while away from the college during home hours seems to be a worthwhile task. It has always been said that home-life reflects upon other areas of a person's life. When a home is comfortable and filled with positive energies, probability has it that performance in the school setting will also be of high quality.

Notes from the Health Service

By N. Buchanan

It's soon to be spring in New England. There's nothing like it. People in the rest of the world make their life changing resolutions at the beginning of the new year but we in New England know that really important changes have to wait for Spring. The days lengthen and our blood begins to stir; we're ready to take on the world. All over New England people are saying to themselves, "Now it's time to begin that exercise program I've been thinking about all winter. Now is the time to quit smoking and start a new diet ... really be in shape by the time summer arrives. I'll get the bike out, join the Y, jog four miles a day and grow all my own vegetables this year." It's a great New England tradition.

The Wellness Center in the Health Service can help with some of your spring resolutions, especially the ones about getting in shape. We can help you learn how to evaluate your present level of fitness and can offer advice about starting a safe exercise program. (If you decide to grow all your own vegetables, check out the Franklin County Extension Service.)

By now we know that aerobic exercise is good for our hearts and may help prevent heart attacks, but there seems to be some confusion about what aerobic exercise is. A lot of people think that aerobic exercise means group exercise classes. Actually, aerobic activity is any activity that is designed to strengthen the heart and improve circulation. To be considered an aerobic activity, the exercise must involve large muscle groups, increase the heart rate, and be continued at increased heart rate for at least 30 minutes. Aerobic activity improves the efficiency of the system that delivers oxygen to your muscles and therefore increases your endurance and

strengthens your heart muscle. Cardiovascular conditioning occurs when your aerobic exercise program is carried out at least 3 days a week.

The heart rate required for optimum benefit must fall within "the target zone" and is determined by subtracting your age from 220. This is your maximum heart rate. At the beginning of your exercise program you should not exceed 70% of your maximum rate. Gradually work up to 85% of your maximum rate. This is your target zone. It is dangerous to exceed 85%.

For example, if you are 40 years old you have a maximum heart rate of 180. (220-40 equals 180). When you begin to exercise you should not let your heart rate exceed 126. (70% of 180 equals 126). It may take weeks before you can comfortably maintain that rate for 30 minutes. As you progress you can increase the rate but it should never exceed 153 beats per minute. (85% of 180 equals 153). Stop in to the Health Service and we will teach you how to measure your pulse and set some fitness goals.

At an earlier time, when people said, "In the Spring, a young man's fancy turns to love," people smiled indulgently and visions of the sweet innocence of first love, as illustrated by a Norman Rockwell painting, came to mind. Today, someone would point out that this is a sexist statement and further, it implies that older people are not interested in love. These days, visions of sweet innocence are replaced by Playboy centerfolds and worries about sexually transmitted diseases. A recent study has shown that condoms will prevent the transmission of AIDS; I think that it is reasonable to assume that they will also prevent the transmission of the Herpes virus. The Wellness Center has a new supply of pamphlets on the subject of "safe sex." We recommend them for everyone who wants to make love safely.

Tidbits

Going Up In Smoke

— Although about 39 million regular cigarette smokers have quit during the past 20 years, 50 million still smoke.

— Smokers have a 70% greater chance of dying from coronary heart disease than non-smokers; that rises to about 200% in heavy smokers.

— Diseases related to smoking cost the U.S. \$65 billion each year.

— Living with someone who smokes at least 20 cigarettes a day may double a non-smoker's chances of getting lung cancer.

— Women who smoke and use oral contraceptives have 10 times the risk of dying from heart attack compared to non-smokers.

Chlamydia Most Prevalent Campus V.D.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, chlamydia is now considered the most prevalent venereal disease on most college campuses. Chlamydia often does not produce symptoms in its victims, and can cause pelvic inflammatory disease — which can lead to sterility — if left untreated.

DCE is already in the process of planning two summer semesters. The first will operate May 19-July 2, with classes meeting two evenings each week. The second will begin July 7 and end August 19. Classes will meet twice a week, either morning or evening. To help us better meet your needs, we would appreciate your filling out this slip and returning it to your instructor or the Continuing Education office by March 27th.

I plan to attend summer classes. _____
I do not plan to attend summer classes. _____
Session I classes will be convenient. _____
Session II classes will be convenient. _____
I am not sure which session will be more convenient. _____

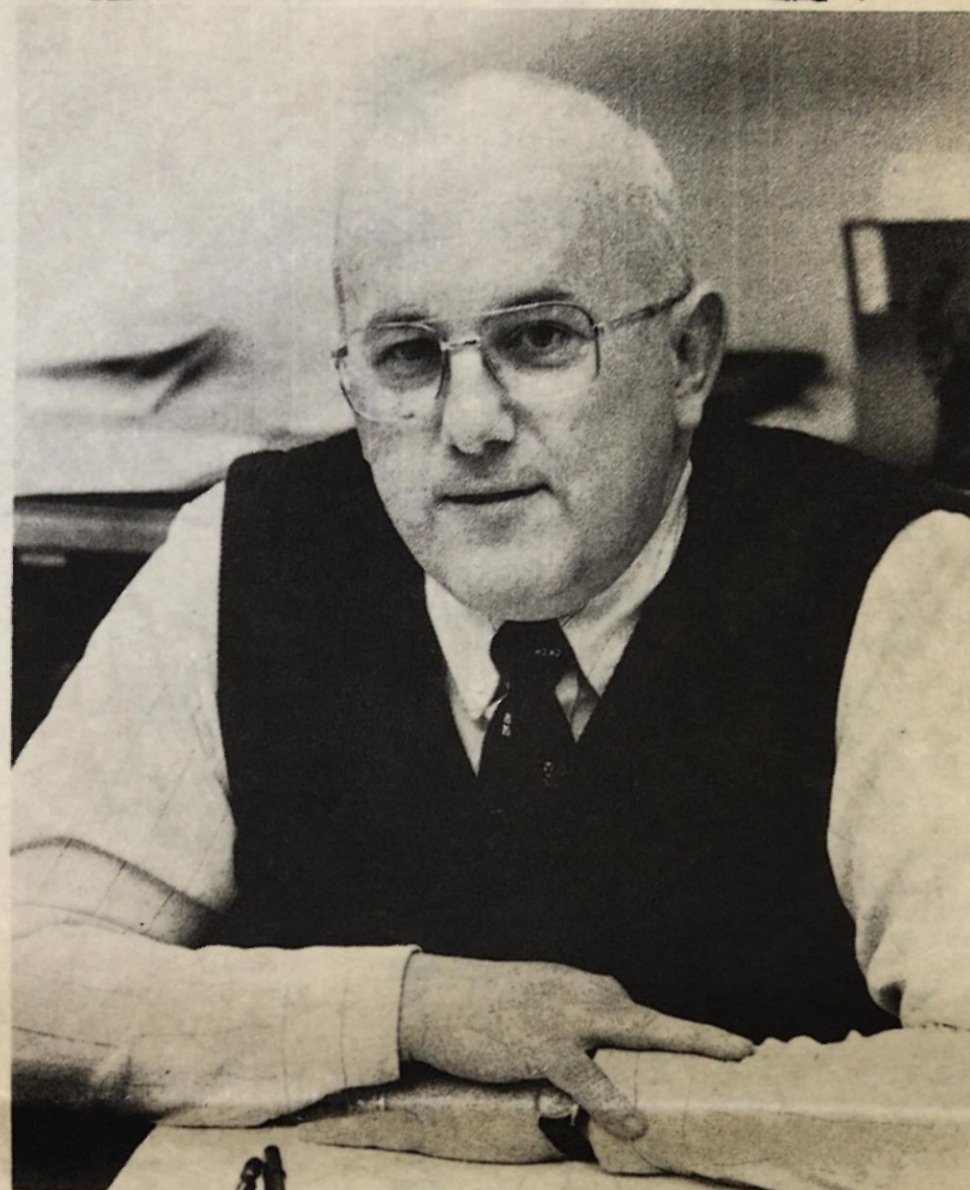
I am interested in taking the following classes this summer:

I am interested in taking the following classes next fall:

Doc's Doubt Contact Lens Safety

Extended-wear contact lenses, worn by about five million Americans, can be left in up to 30 days without removal. That's good news for people who don't want to be bothered by daily contact care. The bad news is that eye doctors are beginning to see a small but increasing number of corneal ulcers in users.

When the tissue covering the cornea of an extended-wear contact users is scraped or doesn't receive enough oxygen, it becomes infected. If the infection penetrates the tissue, partial or complete loss of vision may result. Thousands of corneal ulcers have been reported since the lenses were approved in 1981. In about 100 cases, corneal destruction or vision loss to the point of legal blindness has occurred. Although the lenses can be worn for 30 days, many doctors recommend that they be removed for cleaning weekly to prevent complications. Users should also have eye examinations three times yearly. In the offering is a new extended-wear lens that will give the cornea more oxygen, and disposable lenses, now available in Denmark.



Robert Keir, Director of DCE. Prism photo by E. Wilkerson

DCE Offers a Variety of Programs

Two Sessions For Summer Planned

GCC offers courses in the evening and during the summer through the Division of Continuing Education. These courses are open to persons of post-high school age, whose needs and goals are varied. Some students want credit for a two-year Associate Degree program and/or transfer to a four-year college; others are interested in cultural enrichment and serious use of their leisure time. The Division of Continuing Education or DCE attempts to meet these needs.

Robert Keir, Director of DCE, believes strongly in the program because he feels it provides a service to the community by reaching out to those who may not be able to attend day classes but want to continue learning.

DCE is self funding, receiving no money from the state to support the cost of classes and materials used. For a course to run, DCE needs a minimum amount enrolled per class. This minimum varies from class to class depending on costs involved, and applies to both credit and non-credit courses.

Other programs offered through DCE are the Small Business Institute, Nurses Educational Collaborative (NEC), and The Talented and Gifted Program (TAG).

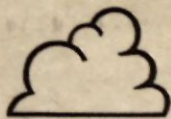
The Small Business Institute offers professional instruction using the expertise of members of the GCC business and techni-

cal faculty and experts from the business world. Through DCE, area Businesses have the opportunity to offer education and training programs to their employees.

Nurses Educational Collaborative is approved by the Massachusetts Nurses Association to grant continuing education contact hours to registered nurses. NEC of Franklin County is a cooperative effort of Franklin Medical Center and Greenfield Community College.

The Talented and Gifted Program is a recently established collaborative project, funded by the Commonwealth through GCC to provide educational experiences for public school students of Franklin and Hampshire Counties. The intent is to provide exciting workshops and courses for study for gifted students outside the normal school day. TAG offers seminars for teachers working with individuals or groups of students in this category and provides relevant information for parents to enable them to share in their child's learning process.

DCE will be offering two sessions this summer. The first will begin May 19 and July 2. Below is a form that may be filled out and returned to the DCE office located in the Dean's Suite. Please take the time to fill it out as this will help DCE to provide the best programs it can. The forms must be returned by March 27th.



Arts Calendar

February 25-April 5: 'Mass. Artists Fellowships in Photography: Recipients and Finalists 1985.' Clarence Kennedy Gallery, 770 Main Street, Cambridge, Ma. Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Go Thom!

March 14-April 12: 'Recent Photographers' The Zone Art Center, 395 Dwight St., Springfield, Ma.

March 24, 25: "Fourteen Americans" — a film about contemporary artists, including Laurie Anderson. To be held in the GCC Arts Gallery.

March 26-April: Graphic Design Art Show. GCC Arts Gallery.

March 25: Due date for Deerfield Valley Art Association Scholarship portfolio.

March 28: Suzanne Vega in concert with Eric Wood at Smith College.

March 31, April 1: "A New Spirit in Painting" — a film concerning six painters of the 80's. GCC Arts Gallery.

April 4: "An Evening of Chamber Music," with Giovina Sessions, violin, John Sessions, cello, and George Soulos, piano. 7 p.m. at GCC.

April 13: "The New England Choral Festival" GCC Choir with participating Community Colleges. Waterbury, Ct.

April 22, 23: "A Voice Recital," with Ann Borton, soprano, Hartley Pfeil, baritone, and George Soulos, piano. 11 a.m. in Room S01.

April 17-May 2: Student Art Show. GCC Arts Gallery.

May 16: The Faure "Requiem" to be performed by members of the Greenfield Chamber Singers. Friday, 8 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Church.

* See DVAA article on this same page.

DVAA

Scholarship Deadline

Tuesday 3/25

One \$500 scholarship and one \$250 scholarship will be awarded to two Art/Graphic Design majors at GCC. These scholarships are made possible by the Deerfield Valley Art Association. The Association was formed in 1931 to advance American art in the Valley. Through exhibitions, demonstration programs, support of educational activities and scholarships, the DVAA intends to create and foster an appreciation of the fine arts and crafts.

Eligibility: Applicants must have completed at least 12 studio credits in the Art or Graphic Design program and be potential graduates. The following factors will be considered by the Selection committee: Obvious promise and dedication to a career in art, consistent demonstrated excellence in attitude and work habits and the ability to comprehend and apply basic visual concepts as taught at GCC. Academic considerations are important, but the award is not based on grades or grade point average.

Requirements:

1. Portfolio — due in Art Office S217, Monday, March 25, 1986 (work submitted must have been done within the last calendar year.)

2. Return the application form to the Financial Aid Office by Tuesday, March 25, 1986.



SHORT STORIES



"Self Portrait" Photo by Sharyn Altshuler

TWELVE A. M.

Empty streets
Echo footsteps
Hurrying down
At 12 A.M.

Moon figures
Parallel my gait,
Rise and disappear
Into dark.

Unrelentless vision
Telescopes the night,
Paving my path
Through fragmented glass,

Empty cans, dirty underwear,
An old cigar, a man in flight,
And night,

As space
Spins randomly
Through the hands
Of who knows why.

- Evon Tefft -

I find that I can only grow
When the one who loves me most
Shows me the beauty above the soil
I'm planted now in fertile ground
My roots will store the food of life
I'm perfect in form, without disease
Because the rainwater is pure and
clean.

Nygren



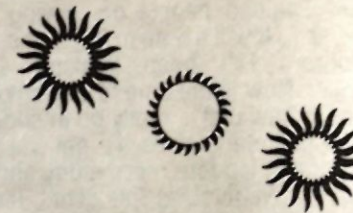
Canyon de Chelly, New Mexico

Photo by Laurie Wheeler

Birth

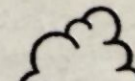
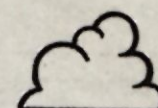
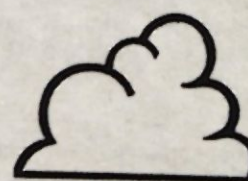
I
Am in the womb
Of a bear.
Waking up
For Spring.
Waking
Up for Life.

M. Allyn



The Inner Sanctum

The answer? A Key, of course!



ARTS!

Not so bad, eh? We still need to hear from more of you artists! Where are you? Let us hear from you, see your work. All types are needed: Graphic arts, short stories, photo, poetry, riddles, upcoming art events, book reviews, concert and movie reviews. Next copy due date is April 4. Leave copy in brown box outside of N336.

INT'L CLUB UPDATE

The next meal sponsored by the International Students Club in the GCC cafeteria will feature the food of France. We will be honoring our two French students, Francois Micallef and Cathy Faure.

So join us on March 27th, wearing some article of French attire; be it beret, smock, sabots, or a peasant blouse.

UMASS HOSTING FAIR

UMASS will be hosting an International Students Fair on Saturday, April 12 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Our club will have a booth and will feature Pat Bunk's portraits. There will also be two tests of Geography for people to take home. One is on the map of the world and the other is a name matching test reflecting the many changes that have occurred in the past 30 years.

The display case outside the library will feature crafts from countries around the world. All items have been offered by students, faculty, and people in the community.

Meet Int'l Student Abbas Hamden

The President of the International Students Club, Abbas Hamden, has resided in the U.S. for three years. He and his brothers Ahmad and Hassan live in Greenfield. All attend GCC.

Abbas completed one year of college at home in Beirut, Lebanon before coming here. Medicine is his ultimate goal, hopefully in the field of plastic surgery. He enjoys studying other languages too. He hopes to have a successful career and a "nice quiet life away from any problems".

Besides his brothers in Greenfield, he also has a cousin here who is married to a U.S. citizen. Their parents, two sisters and two brothers are still home in Lebanon.

A Look At Language

And you wonder why our language is considered difficult! Here is a poem from the "Sunday Times" in London, dated January 3, 1965.

HINTS ON PRONUNCIATION FOR FOREIGNERS

I take it you already know
Of tough and bough and cough and dough?
Others may stumble, but not you,
On hiccough, thorough, lough and through?
Well done! And now you wish, perhaps,
To learn of less familiar traps?

Beware of heard, a dreadful word
That looks like beard and sounds like bird;
And dead: it's said like bed, not bead--
For goodness sake don't call it "deed"!
Watch out for meat and great and threat
(They rhyme with suite and straight and debt).

A moth is not a moth in mother
Nor both in bother, broth in brother,
And here is not a match for there
Nor dear and fear for bear and pear,
And then there's dose and rose and lose--
Just look them up -- and goose and choose,
And cork and work and card and ward,
And front and font and word and sword,
Come, come, I've hardly made a start!
A dreadful language? Man alive!
I mastered it when I was five!



Hello, I'm Hue Nguyen. I came here from Vietnam. I came on the twenty-fourth of October, 1985. I have a family here in Greenfield, Massachusetts. I study English at Greenfield Community College. I love it here, and I love my instructor also.

GCC Art Student Works With Int'l Students

Patricia Bunk, an Art major at GCC, has been doing a series of portraits of International students this semester. Some of the countries represented have been Vietnam, France, the Philippines, Columbia, Panama, and Laos.

Pat will be graduating this spring with a dual degree in Graphic Design and Fine Arts. She has been a tutor in the English as a Second Language Program, and finds these international students individually special. She hopes to continue her work with these students and believes that there is a great value in the lives of each person she has contacted.

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COMMENTARY: Affirmative Action Policy Affects Students

BYE MORGAN ALLYN

I have spent the past several weeks researching, thinking, talking and asking about "affirmative action". Although it is not my first encounter with the subject, I have found that many of my fellow students do not understand how effective affirmative action policies relate to them.

Most of us go through our time at GCC aware of the high quality general education that is available here. It is easy for us to pay attention to only our needs and activities. We are often unaware of the complex activity that goes on around us -- to educate us.

Part of the activity involved is not only selecting the courses to be taught on a campus; but who will be teaching them and whether the education we receive here will prepare us for the "real" world of work.

There is talk in the halls that not everything is going well between the faculty and the administration in resolving the complexities of all these choices. The talk is true. There are real differences as to how to choose appropriate managers for the school.

GCC is coming of age as an institution. Faculty and administration rifts are, by and large, normal aspects of growth in a college.

The controversy surrounding the administrations good faith efforts on behalf of affirmative action is what I am most interested in. Such effort affects me, perhaps more than the administration or faculty realizes.

I came to this school as a re-entry woman. There are several of us here. The term "re-entry" implies that I have returned to academia after spending time experiencing real life. That I have not followed a normal path of schooling from high school to college.

Part of the experience I bring is ten years as an advocate on behalf of the ideals of affirmative action and equal opportunity. This experience has given me a good understanding of how realistic affirmative action goals can be achieved. I also understand how easily the issue is trivialized by management and those who find the idea of power sharing frightening.

How affirmative action is developed and implemented at any institution is of great importance. I know that without affirmative action goals, many women and minorities would not hold their current positions. Without continued effort on behalf of affirmative action -- many women and minorities will not get an equitable chance to ADVANCE.

Use of a strong affirmative action policies directly affects a community college's ability to remain or become a community leader. Two year institutions, because of their close ties to the community, become especially obligated to serve as examples. They must be willing to show leadership.

Actively recruiting and hiring persons of different backgrounds can help an institution grow ... by helping it expand its base of imagination.

As of 1981, there were 11,489 men and 5,887 women holding administrative positions in 2 year colleges. The positions held by women were primarily low or middle level posts; the kind that seldom lead to advancement. Although it is true that conditions for these women are better than what they used to be; this kind of argument smacks of the "you've come a long way, baby" syndrome.

There is also a strong argument that community colleges have been a better place for women in their academic careers. But to quote an article from a community college publication, "...it (2 year colleges) has not been good enough. Not good enough to recruit them, pay them, promote them or tenure them equitably. Not good enough to lead instead of follow society's approach to women.

By not selecting women to fill upper level positions, I believe the current administration has denied itself access to other important viewpoints for decision making. I do not criticize those who have been chosen, in so far as I believe them to be hard working individuals. But I do not understand why a woman or a minority, who may have been a final candidate, has not been placed in the higher level of advisors to the college president. What we have now are the voices of men only. This means when it comes time for the president to seek council he only hears from men with no input from women. Furthermore, is the student body appropriately represented?

The majority of the GCC students are female. Currently the percentage is 63.3 percent of the entire day time population. 35 percent of the GCC day students are women over the age of 24. 40 percent of these women are part time students OR A FULL 25 percent OF THE TOTAL DAY STUDENT BODY.

These are not insignificant numbers. We are women learning vocational skills; seeking to improve our knowledge, preparing ourselves for 4 year colleges. Whether we are obtaining skills to enter the job market in the near future or preparing for many more years of schooling--most of us are going towards careers.

If we as women, are to climb institutional ladders and take our places in management, we have to have examples to help guide the way. Without successful role models, our education is incomplete. Without the knowledge that the discrepancies in pay or the lack of opportunities for advancement are issues that current colleges and universities are willing to grapple with, many women will choose not to seek careers in academia.

Affirmative action -- these are words that women and men of all races will continue to live with for some time. Those who most benefit from strong affirmative action programs are women of all races.

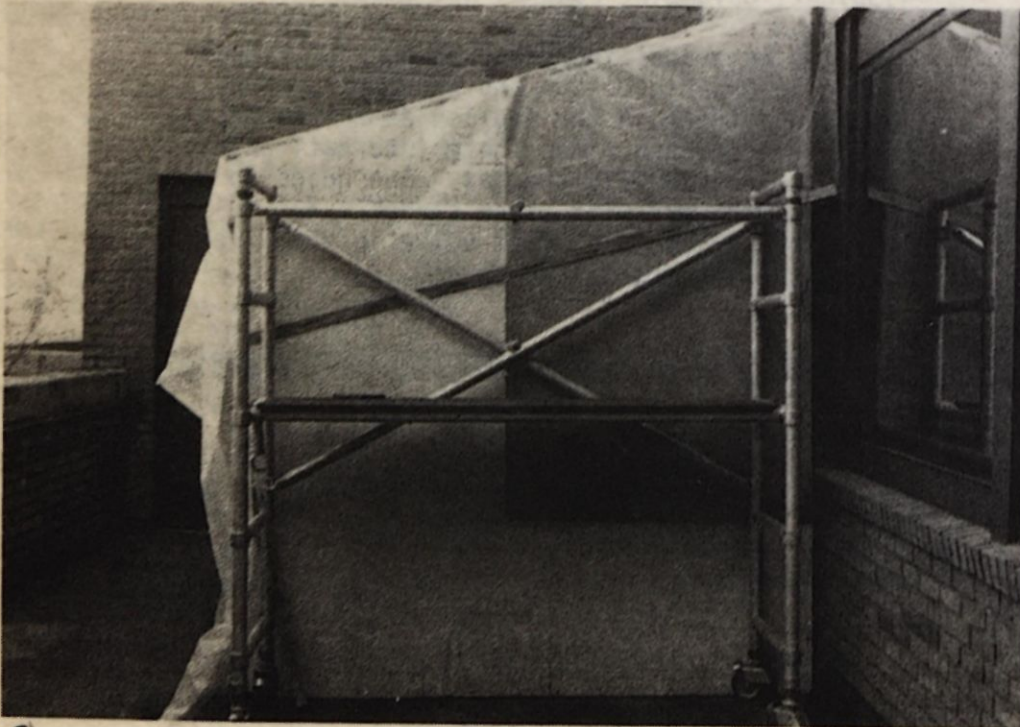
As students, women must demand that affirmative action programs at our colleges be strong and effective; only strong in recruiting women to attend the school but strong in how the college management promotes and recruits women as workers.

←Can you guess what's wrong with this picture? Have gypsies moved in? Has someone decided that that particular spot is too ugly to look at? What exactly are they doing in there?

It seems that all kinds of rumours and conjecture have resulted from the mysterious growths appearance, and it has caused some resentment among the faculty here at our cozy little college.

Why anyone would want a growth of their own, and just exactly what's going on will be explored next month here, in the PRISM!

Yep! It sure looks like SPRING is coming!



GCC Nursing Program Rated High

Fewer Admission Ap's Plague Programs

By Prism News Staff

Margaret Craig, GCC Nursing Program head, announced to the Board of Trustees on March 5th that the Nursing Program was rated 5th in the state and 67th in the nation for schools of comparable size. These ratings are based on the performance of Program graduates on the Licensing Board exams.

Even though the GCC program is one of the strongest in the nation, like nursing schools all over, there is a decline in applications. The admission applications began noticeable decline in 1984. The applications were down by 4.3% then. Figures for 1985 are still being compiled. Although this is cause for concern here at GCC, some schools in the nation have experienced up to a 50% decline.

When asked why fewer persons were applying to the program, Craig stated, "My sense of it is because the cost containment going on in the private sector. There has been a decline in the readily available jobs. Now, graduating students have to hussle to find jobs, some may even need to consider leaving the area to work in their specialties."

Other reasons for the fewer applicants are that some persons who might have otherwise considered nursing are now being recruited into the engineering and science fields; and as Craig says, "There are easier ways of earning a degree than going through the Nursing Program."

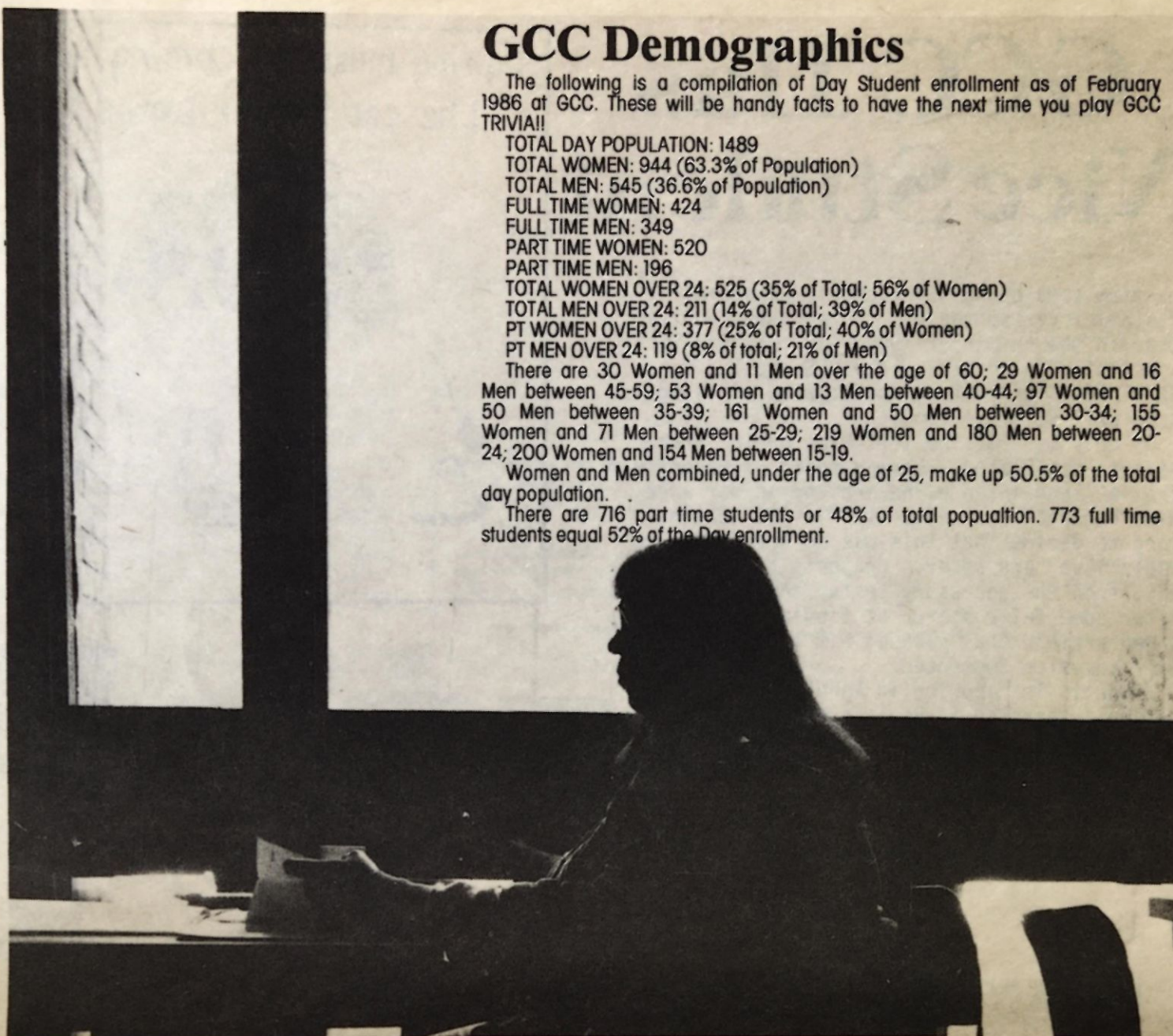
The flipside of this trend is that there is "a very solid group of people" enrolled in the program. Many are persons who have already worked in other fields and are looking to Nursing as an opportunity to reach out and help people.

Another part of the problem is a misunderstanding of how difficult the Nursing Program is to get into. Craig: "The prevalent myth is that it was very difficult to get in. Now it is not so difficult. Our process is still one of selection but there is less competition."

A Nursing Program candidate has to show that they are capable of doing the science involved. The curriculum is designed to give a student the language and the analytical skills needed to help a patient sort through their options and recover or improve their health.

Most Nursing students take more than 4 semesters to accomplish the program. It can even be done on a part time schedule. "More and more students are opting to spread the work load out over more time," says Craig.

Those who are interested in the program can still submit applications even though the usual deadline is passed.



GCC Demographics

The following is a compilation of Day Student enrollment as of February 1986 at GCC. These will be handy facts to have the next time you play GCC TRIVIA!!

TOTAL DAY POPULATION: 1489
TOTAL WOMEN: 944 (63.3% of Population)
TOTAL MEN: 545 (36.6% of Population)
FULL TIME WOMEN: 424
FULL TIME MEN: 349
PART TIME WOMEN: 520
PART TIME MEN: 196
TOTAL WOMEN OVER 24: 525 (35% of Total; 56% of Women)
TOTAL MEN OVER 24: 211 (14% of Total; 39% of Men)
PT WOMEN OVER 24: 377 (25% of Total; 40% of Women)
PT MEN OVER 24: 119 (8% of total; 21% of Men)

There are 30 Women and 11 Men over the age of 60; 29 Women and 16 Men between 45-59; 53 Women and 13 Men between 40-44; 97 Women and 50 Men between 35-39; 161 Women and 50 Men between 30-34; 155 Women and 71 Men between 25-29; 219 Women and 180 Men between 20-24; 200 Women and 154 Men between 15-19.

Women and Men combined, under the age of 25, make up 50.5% of the total day population.

There are 716 part time students or 48% of total population. 773 full time students equal 52% of the Day enrollment.

It's been a long long winter!



CAREER PLANNING WORKSHOP

Indecision and a lack of information about career options are common dilemmas in people's search for the right job, says GCC Learning Center counselor Suzanne McGowan. But, she says, there are ways to resolve those problems through the career planning process.

McGowan and Learning Center counselor David Patrick will offer an introductory career planning workshop on Wednesday, April 2 from 12 noon until 1 p.m. in room C129 at the college. The workshop is specifically designed for people who are thinking about career changes, returning to school, or retiring.

McGowan and Patrick will explain the tools of career planning and how they can help in defining career goals.

"We'll talk about the kinds of choices that a person is making when he or she is interested in changing jobs or in choosing an occupational field," McGowan said.

McGowan and Patrick address similar issues in the GCC day division course, Career Decision Making and Planning.

The workshop is free and open to the public, and participants are welcome to bring a bag lunch. For more information, call the Learning Center at 774-3131.

New Engineering Program Offered

GCC Chosen From Area Schools

By B. Astrella

Engineering students who want a four year degree in Electrical, Mechanical, or Chemical engineering plus the personal attention offered at GCC will have a new program to consider in the fall, according to Dr. Lee Webster of the GCC engineering department.

UMass has chosen GCC out of six other local community college for a four year degree transfer program. Under the dual admissions program students who apply and are admitted to the College of Engineering at UMass are given the decision to

attend the first two years of the program at the University of Amherst or attend the same classes at Greenfield. Credits are transferred to UMass at the end of the two years without the usual transfer process.

What is in the program for local potential engineers? According to Dr. Webster, it will help those students who find transportation to Amherst every weekday a problem. The program will also help students who thought they would have to live on campus. Another attractive feature of GCC is that all engineering courses are instructed by trained faculty members, something

that is not true at every college. A slight tuition decrease would also be included, although Dr. Webster noted it wouldn't be substantial enough to make a big difference.

The dual admissions program will also help the college as a whole. Dr. Webster hopes the program will bring in 20 to 25 new students by the second year of the plan. It will also be beneficial to those students in the two year engineering program at GCC. "More students in the engineering classes will provide better learning all around," Dr. Webster said.

One hopeful aspect of the program will be to try and encourage women and minorities to participate in an engineering

program. According to Dr. Webster women make up only about 15 percent of the nations engineers. This semester at GCC there is only two female enrollments in the engineering department. Dr. Webster stressed that the college is by no means discriminating. "The interest," he explains "has simply not been there over the last couple of years."

Any student interested in the dual admission program is encouraged to talk to Dr. Webster or to write to the University of Massachusetts Admissions Office at: Whittemore Administration Bldg., U. Mass, Amherst, Ma. 01003 for application information.

GCC Has Nice Student

After completing High School, Francois Miscallef visited the U.S. on a cross-country tour in the summer of 1983. It left him with a yearning to return to the U.S. to learn more about our culture and improve his language skills.

On July 5, 1985, he left Nice on the French Riviera for Boston. Having heard of Greenfield from an acquaintance, he arrived in our area with backpack and tent. It did not take him long to decide that this was an area where he would live and study. Francois contacted GCC, took the necessary tests, and was accepted. After some false starts at finding housing, he found a place that pleased him before the Fall semester commenced.

Francois is majoring in Management and has become interested in Real Estate Marketing. He would like to visit other countries, but feels that he would eventually like to return to the U.S. permanently.

Left behind in Nice are his parents, a brother and a sister. Their loss this year has definitely been GCC's gain.

FINANCIAL AID CORNER

By Prism News Staff

New Scholarship for Criminal Justice Majors

The Montague Police Relief Association Scholarship Fund is now available for all Criminal Justice majors who have completed 30 semester hours by July 2nd. The scholarship is for \$250. Deadline for application is July 2nd. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office.

Scholarship Funds Available from AIIM: April 1st Deadline

The Association for Information and Image Management has announced that applications for the John P. Eager Memorial Scholarship must be submitted by April 1st, 1986. Each year AIIM's local chapters grant a \$2,000 scholarship. Entry is simple in that each applicant has to develop and submit an article on how micrographics could be used in the planned career path. Applications and further information are available from Tom Burke of Anacomp, Inc., 15 Flanders Road, Belmont, Ma. 02178, phone: (617) 489-3100.

The Campus Safety Association Offers \$500 Award

The Campus Safety Association, National Safety Council, has a scholarship fund for the purpose of making a \$500 award to a student who is enrolled in an academic program that will lead to a degree in occupational health or safety. Candidates must be registered, be in good academic standing, and be recommended by their college or university. The award will be made during the summer of 1986. The Financial Aid Office has the forms for the application. The deadline for submission is April 15.

The Dow Jones Fund's Journalism Career Guide

The 1986 Journalism Career and Scholarship Guide is now available. The 192-page book provides valuable information on what to study in college, where to study journalism and mass communications, where the jobs are and how to find them. A list of more than \$3 million in scholarships available to journalism and communications majors is included. Single copies are free, WRITE: Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, P.O. Box 300, Princeton, N.J. 08540.

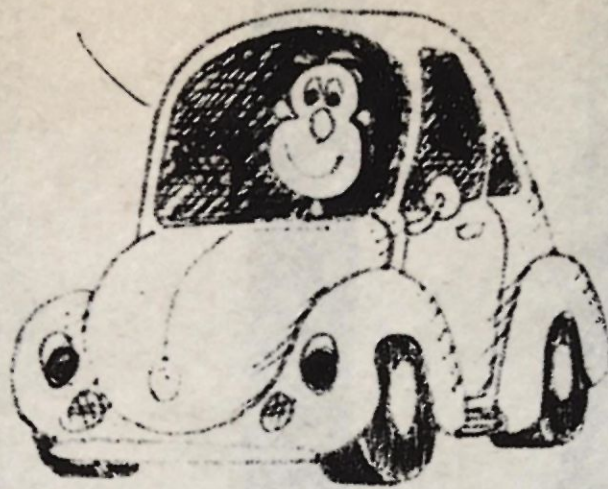
Society Offers \$1,000 for Mars Transport System

The Planetary Society is conducting a student contest for high school and college students. The 1986 topic is: design a system of transportation for the scientific exploration of Mars from a Mars research base. The winner will receive \$1,000 plus an all expense paid trip to an upcoming conference on Mars exploration in Washington, D.C. Write to: Mars Institute Student Contest, The Planetary Society, 65 N. Catalina Ave., Pasadena, Ca. 91106.

Pollock-Krasner Foundation Artists Award

The Pollock-Krasner Foundation, Inc. was established in 1985. It seeks to find worthy artists, i.e. painters, sculptors, graphic and mixed-media artists, who have a current financial need and for whom a grant will enable them to pursue their careers. There are no age or geographic limitations. The need may be professional or personal. WRITE: P.O. Box 4957, New York, N.Y. 10185.

Spring must be coming...
the car heater works!



Food Stamps Cut

continued from page 1

He went on to explain that, right now, the Department of Welfare Food Stamps Program, which is a program of assistance implemented by the Department of Welfare, but run by the USDA (Department of Agriculture), can deduct only tuition and fees, under the law. Prior to this new interpretation of the law, the Welfare Department was deducting everything, including books and transportation.

Mr. Greenleaf suggested strongly that welfare recipients register for the Employment Training Program. He indicated that the program has funding to pay for books, transportation and child care.

In an interview with GCC's Director of Financial Aid, Jane Abbot, she explained that there were 358 Pell Grants granted through GCC last year. Of this amount, 250 were to welfare recipients.

Abbot mentioned that a former GCC student now at Smith College is fighting the Food Stamp cut. "If she wins, it will set a precedent."



The new GCC Student Senators slowed down long enough to pose for the PRISM camera. From left to right: Dale, Marque, Sandi and Paul. Photo by E. Wilkerson.

That reminds me, It's just about
time to start my taxes...

